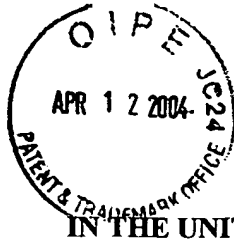


PATENT

Docket No. 1232-4570



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Kenji Morita and Tomoaki Kawai
Serial No. : 09/401,400 Group Art Unit : 2612
Filed : September 22, 1999 Examiner: Jason T. Whipkey
For : SERIAL SCANNER APPARATUS, BI-DIRECTIONAL ERROR
CORRECTION METHOD THEREFOR, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 13 2004

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Official Action dated March 23, 2004, in which pending claims 1-29 are subject to a Restriction and/or Election Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect what the Examiner characterized as the invention of Group II encompassing claims 20-29.

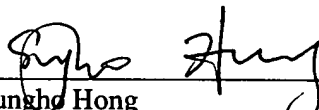
Should the Restriction and/or Election Requirement be made final, Applicants expressly reserve the right to represent the non-elected Group I claims (i.e., claims 1-19) in a divisional application, if necessary.

Applicants believe that no fee is due for the submission of this response, However, Applicants hereby authorize Commissioner to charge any fees, including fees which may be required for timely consideration of this response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4570). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

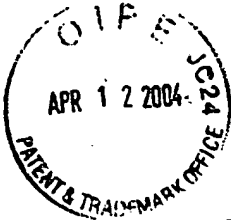
Dated: April 8, 2004

By: _____


Sunghe Hong
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Docket No. 1232-4570

2612

#6

BA 4-15-04

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. §1.8(a))

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Sir:

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I hereby certify that the attached:

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1. Response to Restriction/Election Requirement; and
2. Return Receipt Postcard.

along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

4/20/04
WJS

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: April 8, 2004

By:

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